

decent
Plan by Prussion

Anti-Red Unit Story Clarified

On June 19, 1960, The Chronicle carried a story concerning a proposal by Karl Prussion, a former Communist and FBI informer, that the Colonel John Howard, Post 558, American Legion, Los Altos, organize an anti-red unit.

Prussion has complained that the heading and contents of the story conveyed the impression he advocated that this unit should conduct

investigations and operate as a "spy" plan.

In fact, Prussion confined his recommendation to the building of an organization of strategy and tactics to fight Communism without detailing what methods should be employed.

The references in The Chronicle story objected to by Prussion reflected the opinion of certain Post members that the plan could only operate as a "spy" organization.

Any implication that Prussion advocated the creation of a "spy" plan is erroneous. The Chronicle regrets any embarrassment occasioned Mr. Prussion.

SAN FRANCISCO, CHRONICLE
San Francisco, California
Date: 8-3-60
Edition: FINAL HOME
City Editor: ABE MELLINKOF
Publisher: Charles de
Young Thieriot

Author:
Case:

Classification:

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 5 1960	
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (100-45853)

8/9/60

SA ZAVEN JARDARIAN

COMINFIL
SAN FRANCISCO STATE
IS - C

b6
b7C
b7D

On 7/29/60, [redacted]
[redacted] San Francisco, (protect) furnished a typed copy of
a statement received by the First Baptist Church just
preceding the appearance of KARL PRUSSIAN on Monday night,
6/20/60. The statement is by the CP of Northern California
on the San Francisco hearings of the HCUA issued by ALBERT
J. LIMA, Chairman, 942 Market Street, Room 410-11, San
Francisco 2, California. [redacted]
[redacted]. KARL PRUSSIAN
is a former FBI informant.

RECOMMENDATION: File.

ccs:

1 - 100-45853
1 - 100-36985 (HCUA)
1 - 134-7 (KARL PRUSSIAN)
1 - [redacted]
1 - 100-11889 (CP)
1 - 65-1242 (MICKIE LIMA)
ZJ:sjl
(6)

b6
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100-45853-414
RJB

Plan by Prussion

Anti-Red Unit Story Clarified

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SAN FRANCISCO, CHRONICLE
San Francisco, California
Date: 8-3-60
Edition: FINAL HOME
City Editor: ABE MELLINKOFF
Publisher: Charles de
Young Thieriot

Author:
Case:

Classification:

CC TO BUREAU 8/4/60

Harter
Smith

Karl Prussion
134-7

R. H. Nelson

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (134-7)

DATE: July 11, 1960

FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON

SUBJECT: KARL PRUSSIAN -
a former SI

b7D

On June 27, 1960, [] furnished a written report, which has been filed in []. It read as follows:

"6/22/60
GENERAL

"Last Friday I think it was Karl Prussian gave a talk to The American Legion in Los Altos and Frank Schneider and [] - also Al Isaksen and some friend of his tried to get in but they were stopped at the door - so [] said he wanted to give Karl a note so he wrote - Frank said - to Karl that he still had his \$5,000.00 and it was still secure. It seems Karl tried to borrow \$5,000.00 unsecured from [] quite some time ago and of course he did not get it. However, Karl came to the door and saw [] and Frank - so I guess it was as a result of this silly behavior of [] and Frank Schneider that quite a few of us got the following note:

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b7C

'If any of you Palo Alto, Los Altos cell Commies try to bother Karl Prussian at any time the action will be reciprocated.

'Friends of Karl Prussian

'and tell your fellow travelers too.'

"The feeling of the club is that Karl sent them out. It didn't

1 - 134-7

4 cc: []

100-24017 (Frank Schneider)

100-31482 []

100-9538 (Allen Isaksen)

b6

b7C

b7D

READ BY _____

REVIEWED BY _____

RHN(#8):js
(5)

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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JUL 12 1960	
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

SF 134-7
RHN:js

"seem to bother any of them though, but the club members are kind of mad at Frank for going to the meeting.

"[REDACTED]" b7D
b7E

Informant had no further information.

RECOMMENDATION: No investigation.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (100-3730)

FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON

SUBJECT: CP, SANTA CLARA COUNTY
IS - C

DATE: JUL 8 1960

DOCUMENTATION:

Source	Date of Activity	Date Received	File Where Located
[REDACTED]	6/5/60	6/16/60 SA R. H. NELSON	[REDACTED] b7D

The following is a written report of a meeting of informant's CP Club held 6/5/60 at 1016 Channing Street, Palo Alto:

"Palo Alto Communist Party Club "6/14/60

"On Sunday, June 5/60 the Palo Alto C.P. Club met at the house of GERTRUDE ADLER. Those attending were MARY WILSON, [REDACTED] FRANK SCHINEIDER, DORIS DAWSON, [REDACTED] b6 b7C

"The primary elections were discussed. Also the problem of ED ROSS - KARL PRUSSIONS occupation - the Club decided to wait and see if there is to be further action against ED ROSS as his lawyer told him that if

2-San Francisco
ccs: [REDACTED]

b7D

100-11889 CP N. CALIF.
100-25794 GERTRUDE ADLER
100-33524 MARY WILSON
100-24017 [REDACTED]
100-33801 DORIS DAWSON
100-16351 WALTER HARJU
100-36705 ED ROSS
134-7 KARL PRUSSIAN

RHN:dd
(11)
#10

Searched.../Indexed...
Serialized.../Filed...
FBI, SAN FRANCISCO

134. 7-410

SF 100-3730
RHN:dd

b6
b7C

nothing is brought up before congress adjourns for the summer there is a chance that nothing may come of it. However DORIS DAWSON did mention to [REDACTED] that she and one other person recalled vaguely that there was some sort of conversation on seceerity at one time - She said she is sure that it was not at a club meeting -

"/s/ [REDACTED]" b7D
b7E

Informant had no further information.

RECOMMENDATION:

No further investigation.

Red Issue Splits Post

Postroy rose states that "Kinson" said day when an American Legion skeptic, saying he wanted post in Los Altos announced to know more about the plans to organize a "grass group's purpose before join-roots" anti-Communist group ing. to "lobby for the American viewpoint."

The membership of the Lt. er of the post, said he was not receptive to the idea. Col John Howard Post No. 55 appeared split over the "Anti-Communist investiga- tions are in the provinces of law enforcement bodies," he noted.

Post Commander William Newman said the idea for a so-called grass roots movement came at Friday night's packed meeting which featured a speech by Karl Prussion, the FBI informer who recently testified in San Francisco before the House Un-American Activities Subcommittee.

Prussion urged the Legionnaires to start an organization of "strategy and tactics to fight Communism."

Newman said many members signed up for the new group, but declined to reveal the exact number. The post has about 200 members.

SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER
San Francisco, California
Date: 6-19-60
Edition: FINAL
Managing Editor: LINTON von
BEROLDINGEN
Publisher: CHARLES MAYER
Case:

Classification:

Karl Prussion

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 23 1960	
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

137-7-404

Anti Red Tactics

Legion 'Spy' Plan Splits Bay Post

A hot dispute erupted yesterday in a Los Altos American Legion post over an FBI informer's proposal that members organize their own spy organization.

Cause of the argument was just how the unnamed anti-Communist group was to occupy its time and energies.

The proposal that the legionnaires form "an organization of strategy and tactics to fight Communism" came during a speech to 250 post members Friday night by Karl Prussion.

FORMER RED

Prussion, a former Communist turned FBI informer, was a government witness at the recent hearings of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Yesterday, some members of the Colonel John Howard Post 558 were sharply critical of Prussion's idea.

Former Los Altos Mayor Irving Atkinson, said "I'd like to know more about it than I learned last night."

Jack Francis, a coffee shop proprietor, of 265 West Portola drive criticized the proposed organization of sleuths as "a spy organization to pry into the personal opinions and lives of individuals."

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
San Francisco, California
Date: 6-23-60
Edition: FINAL
City Editor: ABE MELLINKOFF
Publisher: Charles de
Young Thieriot.

Author:
Case:

Classification *Karl Prussion*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUN 23 1960	
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01-10-2011 BY 60324 UC/BAW/SAB/DF

'RED METHODS'

Such a group, Francis said, "would be using the methods of Communism in order to fight Communism."

But Post Commander William Newman vigorously denied that allegation. "The purpose would not be to pry into personal lives, not to inform on individuals, and not to beat the bushes or peek over back fences," he declared.

Newman said the nameless group would be "a grass-roots movement to combat the flood of Communist and pro-Communist literature with anti-Communist literature."

"We intend to lobby for the anti-Communist view," Newman declared.

HERB CAEN SUED HERE FOR LIBEL BY LOS ALTOS BUILDER, KARL PRUSSION

Herb Caen, The San Francisco Chronicle's colorful columnist, may have to appear in Superior Court in San Jose.

Caen was named as a defendant in a libel suit filed this week by Karl Prussion, Los Altos home builder and ex-FBI informer on Communist activity in the Bay Area.

Also named in the suit were Chronicle Publishing Co., San Francisco Chronicle, Charles Thieriot (publisher) and Gordon Pates (editor).

Statement

The alleged libelous statement appeared in Caen's column on August 28, 1959, when the following item was published:

"Karl Prussion of the Peninsula the former FBI informer who was prepared to Tell All about Bay Area teachers to the Un-American Activities Committee, appeared before the Sunnyvale Lions Club the other night and found himself on a spot. The hall was loaded with teachers .. all of 'em angry, and when a Sunnyvale newsman demanded: 'Can you name one Communist teacher in this area -- ever one?'-- Prussion backed down with a meek 'No'."

Prussion asked \$125,000 in damages for the alleged libel, which he claims was published in an intentional, wicked and malicious manner with the intent to injure him.

"By the above statement, the defendants meant that the plaintiff had falsely and / or erroneously represented himself as having information concerning un-American activities among Bay Area teachers, and that his misrepresentation was revealed when he was requested at the meeting to name one Communist teacher in the area," the complaint states.

Lost Contracts

Prussion claims he has lost valuable contracts, which were under negotiation, involving publication rights of his experiences in the Communist party and as an informer for the FBI.

By reason of the publication, the complaint continues, Prussion and his family have been caused to suffer great mental anguish, humility, public hatred, contempt, ridicule, obloquy and disgrace among his fellow employees, acquaintances, neighbors, and the general public, and has had his integrity, virtue and reputation questioned.

Attorneys for the plaintiff are Burd and Quantz of Oakland.

SAN JOSE POST-RECORD
San Jose, Calif.
Date: 5-18-60

134-7-405

FBI informer to continue testimony in Washington before Red probers

Karl Prussion, Los Altos contractor and FBI informer, today said he will go to Washington soon to continue his testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

His testimony will include documentary evidence about Communist activity in the Midpeninsula area, he said.

HE TESTIFIED before a subcommittee of the house group in San Francisco last week and named a number of Midpeninsula who he said were under Communist discipline.

That testimony was only a "warmup" for additional information he will provide at the Washington hearing, he said.

Date of the hearing in the nation's capital has not been set, but it will be soon, Prussion said.

Prussion repeated his assertion that Communist infiltration in Midpeninsula area church groups, political clubs and social organizations is "most critical."

He said the infiltration is directed from Moscow and is aimed at creating an atmosphere of apathy about the menace of communism.

Prussion denied charges that he is benefiting financially from his 13 years of undercover work for the FBI.

"Actually I am broke, destitute and unemployed," he said. "I went bankrupt two months ago."

HE SAID he has moved five times in the past nine months and is planning to move again soon to help protect himself and his family.

Prussion also declared that he has waived congressional immunity regarding his testimony.

PALO ALTO TIMES
Palo Alto, California
Date: 5-20-60
Edition: FINAL
Editor: ALEXANDER BODI
Publisher: H.L. MILLET
Author:
Case:

Classification:
File No.: 134-7

Subject: Karl Prussian

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 25 1960	
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

134-7 404

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (134-7)

DATE: 5/9/60

FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON

SUBJECT: KARL PRUSSIAN
FORMER SF 1740-Sb6
b7C

index On 4/25/60, [redacted]
Carpenters Local 668 at Palo Alto, was interviewed in
response to his telephone call to the resident agency.
[redacted] said that he has for many years cooperated with the
FBI and he had always supposed that if the FBI had a question
regarding him or his union that he would be contacted
directly. He said he is suspicious that KARL PRUSSIAN
is hanging around the Carpenters Union Hall, for the purpose
of investigating him or the union or possibly some of the
union members. He said that if this is true he will not
interfere with PRUSSIAN and will in fact cooperate in the
investigation. He said he is still resentful that the FBI
did not confide in him.

It was explained to [redacted] that PRUSSIAN has no
connection with the FBI and has not had since he publicly
disclosed himself as a former informant of the FBI.
[redacted] was assured that no investigation of him or his union
is being made by the FBI and that we did not know PRUSSIAN
was frequenting the union hall.

b6
b7C

He was assured that the FBI has not solicited
or received report from PRUSSIAN on any such activity. At
the conclusion of the interview [redacted] said he had mis-
understood and that he has only the friendliest feelings
for the FBI and will continue to cooperate with the FBI.
He said he is suspicious of PRUSSIAN because PRUSSIAN is
constantly whispering with one carpenter or another and
hangs around the union hall ostensibly looking for work.
Whereas he has turned down the jobs offered him through the
union.

b6
b7C

Recommendation, no investigation.

(1-San Francisco)

RHN:bsc
(1)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 11 1960	
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

KWA

134-7-403

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (134-7)

DATE: 4/26/60

FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON

SUBJECT: FORMER SF 1740-S

b6
b7C

On 4/20/60, the letter directed this office for delivery to San Jose from [redacted] [redacted], Orinda, California, was delivered to Former SF 1740-S. At this time former SF 1740-S furnished his new address as 123 Freemont Street, Los Altos, Telephone #Whitecliff 8-2897. He advised he has been testifying in Sacramento under subpoena by the State of California on behalf of the California Board of Education. He stated his testimony has been along the line of Establishing the Revolutionary Nature of the CP. He said he has not received a subpoena for the upcoming NCUA Hearing but believes the subpoena he received last year is still outstanding and that he will be called to testify in this year's hearing. He stated he has done nothing further towards writing his book.

1- San Francisco
RHN:MAG #10
(1)

4/29/60
Genia

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1960	
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO	

[Signature]

134-7-402

F. B. I. March 12
San Jose Office Agent in Charge

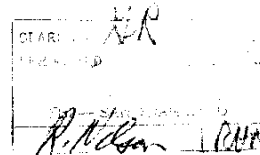
Dear Sir:

Mr. Karl Trussion gave a talk
in Oakland last year, which I read
about in the Oakland Tribune.

It seemed to me that his efforts
as an undercover agent for F. B. I.
deserved my thanks.

I discovered his name was
not listed in the phone directory.

over



The San Jose postoffice returned
my letter. I had hoped to deliver
this somehow, but time has passed
without my having made any progress.

Would you be so kind as to
forward the enclosed to Mr. Prusso.
Thank you.

[Redacted]
Orinda, California

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

Received

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

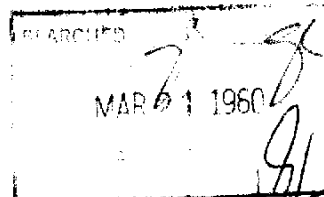
TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (134-7)

DATE: 3/21/60

FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON

SUBJECT: KARL PRUSSIAN
Former SF 1740-Sb6
b7C

There is being placed in this file a letter received at the Palo Alto RA from [redacted] Los Altos, California. This letter was acknowledged personally by the agent who advised [redacted] that the FBI, being a fact finding rather than a policy making organization could make no suggestion to her regarding registration or political activity. [redacted] offered her cooperation and spoke highly of KARL PRUSSIAN. She appeared completely sincere.

RHN:NJM
(1)

134-7-397

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (134-7)

DATE: 3/21/60

FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON

SUBJECT: KARL PRUSSIAN
Former SF 1740-Sb6
b7C

On 3/14/60, [redacted] the Palo Alto Congregational Church, telephonically advised that he understood from a member of this church that arrangements had been made for KARL PRUSSIAN to speak before the men's group of the church that evening. He stated the arrangements had been made by [redacted] Los Altos Hills, California. He stated [redacted] had met PRUSSIAN through a series of discussions on International Affairs called "Great Decisions" were in a series of eight sessions at the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto. He stated that PRUSSIAN, according to [redacted] was going to tell the men's group about Communist infiltration in the "Great Decisions" sessions. [redacted] understood that PRUSSIAN would name the Communist or Communists who were participating in these sessions. [redacted] wanted to know if PRUSSIAN was in fact a former FBI informant and if he was reliable.

[redacted] was advised that KARL PRUSSIAN had furnished information to the FBI on a confidential basis for a number of years and was compensated for that information. He was told that PRUSSIAN has never been an FBI agent or employee. It was explained to [redacted] that the FBI could not vouch for PRUSSIAN or comment on his reliability but that this should not be taken as an implication that PRUSSIAN is unreliable. The Bureau policy in this regard was explained to [redacted] who expressed his understanding and appreciation.

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b7C

-RECOMMENDATION: No investigation

RHN:NJM

(u)

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.....United States Government

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (100-3730) DATE: 3/30/60
FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON
SUBJECT: CP SANTA CLARA COUNTY
IS-C

b7D

DOCUMENTATION

[REDACTED] 3/16/60 RICHARD H. NELSON [REDACTED]

The following is a written report from informant of a meeting of the second half of the Santa Clara County convention of the CP held at 460 East Washington Street, San Jose at the home of [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

"March 14, '60

"Santa Clara County Convention C.P.
2nd half - March 13th '60

"The 2nd half of the Santa Clara County Communist Party Convention was held Sunday March 13 from 10 to 2:30 at the home of [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

1 cc each:

100-3730

100-1418 (ITZ NICHOLAS)

100-27926 [REDACTED]

100-41635 [REDACTED]

100-45294 [REDACTED]

100-45293 [REDACTED]

100-30040 [REDACTED]

100-5867 [REDACTED]

100-37081 [REDACTED]

100-33801 (DORIS DAWSON)

100-30647 [REDACTED]

100-22198 (FRANCIS FINK)

100-29725 [REDACTED]

100-16351 (WALTER HARJU)

65-1242 (MICKEY LIMA)

100-25347 (POLIT. ACTIV.)

100-9720 (NEGRO QUESTION)

100-27747 (CP ORGANIZATION)

100-9538 (ALLEN ISAKSEN)

134-7 (KARL PRUSSIAN)

(22) RHN:njo

Read by _____

Reviewed by _____

Searched _____ Index _____

Serialized _____ Filed _____

FBI - San Francisco

12/11/11

SF 100-3730
RHN:njo

b6
b7C

"Those attending were ELIZABETH NICHOLAS, [redacted]
[redacted] (a young negro about 30. I think
must be the new recruit) [redacted] (last name?)
They are recent transfers. [redacted] (last name?) and [redacted]
[redacted] DORIS DAWSON, [redacted] and [redacted]
[redacted] and WALTER HARTU. MICKEY LIMA was there from the
district. [redacted] was chairman. [redacted] gave the
report from the county committee.

"The report covered the growth of Santa Clara County
in the last seven years - It stated that all party activities
should be directed toward the 1960 elections because all Santa
Clara County political representatives are reactionary
republicans although the county has more registered democrats
than republicans. It mentioned the importance of COPE to write
all unions politically. It also mentioned that the communist
party had not given any help to any recent strikes..

b6
b7C

"It pointed out the importance of the Sweet campaign
in San Jose. As far as I can gather there is no reason that SWEET
is being backed by the party except that he is a negro. Further
he realizes that [redacted], and the others
are communists or just people interested in university groups
I do not know.

"Those elected to the new County Committee are [redacted] &
[redacted] and FRANCIS FINK, [redacted], DORIS
DAWSON, [redacted] and ELIZABETH NICHOLAS - [redacted]
[redacted] was again elected county chairman.

b6
b7C

"The idea of running a candidate for the Democratic
primaries against BRYAN is still being considered. It was
decided that ALLAN ISAKSE would not be asked because of his
past relations with KARL PRUSSIAN. [redacted] referred to KARL
PRUSSIAN as a "blabbermouth" Everyone thought it was very funny!
So did I! - The reason for running a candidate in the primaries
is to try to force BRYAN to take a stronger stand on peace,
civil rights and disarmaments etc.

b6
b7C

"DORIS DAWSON reported that she had heard that Dr.
RUSSELL LEE is very strong for total world disarmaments and
wondered if LEE could be persuaded to run against GUBSER. It
would be interesting to find out if anyone contacts him.

SF 100-3730
RHN:njo

HARRIET seems to be the chairman of the political committee of the San Jose Club. (There is still only one)

"MICKEY LIMA gave a short talk on political matters and stressed the importance of the 1960 elections.

"The meeting broke up about 2:30 as LIMA and FRANCIS FINK and one or two others had to leave to go to a funeral in Oakland I think.

"/s/ [REDACTED]

b7D

b7E

The informant was questioned concerning the above report and she explained that her reference to COPE is to the "Committee on Political Education" of the Santa Clara County Labor Council. She knows of no communist control of this organization but feels that the party hopes to use it for its own purposes. She said that her reference to SWEET is to WEBSTER SWEET, a negro and a candidate for San Jose City Council.

Informant stated that she knows of no communist connections or sympathies on the part of SWEET and doubts that he knows that the CP is supporting him. Similarly she said that Dr. RUSSELL LEE has no connection whatsoever with the party and would not be aware of the party's interest in him. She said that the only reason his name has come up in this political discussion was that it is understood he feels very strongly on the subject of total world disarmament. The party, according to informant would take any measures to defeat Congressman GUBSER. The informant had no further information.

RECOMMENDATION: No investigation.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01-10-2011 BY 60324 UC/BAW/SAB/DF

TO: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO
FROM: SA RICHARD H. NELSON
CP, SANTA CLARA COUNTY
IS - C

DATE: 1/26/60

Documentation:

[REDACTED] 1/7/60 1/13/60 SA R.H. NELSON [REDACTED]

b7D

Following is a written report of a meeting of
the Palo Alto CP Club held at 71 Morton Way, Palo Alto:

"Jan 11th '60

"Palo Alto Club C.P. Meeting

b6

b7C

"On Friday, Jan 7th the Palo Alto Club of the
Communist Party met at the home of MARY WILSON. Those
attending were [REDACTED] MARY WILSON, MIKE
SHAPOVALOV, FRANK SCHNEIDER, DORIS DAWSON, GERTRUDE
ADLER, SARA ALCHERMES and WALTER HARJU.

1 - 100-3730

cc

[REDACTED]
100-11889 (CP N. Calif. Dist)
100-33524 (MARY WILSON)
100-24948 (MIKE SHAPOVALOV)
100-24017 (FRANK SCHNEIDER)
100-33801 (DORIS DAWSON)
100-25794 (GERTRUDE ADLER)
100-7103 (SARA ALCHERMES)
100-16351 (WALTER HARJU)
100-21288 (CP San Mateo County)
100-1418 (LIZ NICHOLAS)
[REDACTED]

b6

b7C

b7D

100-9884 (HOLLAND ROBERTS)
134-7 (KARL PRUSSIAN)
100-32969 [REDACTED]
100-15941 (WILMA HARJU)
100-45338 (Pen. Comm. for Freedom
in Educ.)

Read by: [REDACTED]

Reviewed by: [REDACTED]

RHN:LMR #10
(19)

Searched _____ Indexed _____
Serialized _____ Filed _____

JAN 26, 1960
FBI, SAN FRANCISCO

134-7-392

SF 100-3730
RHN:LMR

"The question of letting the Redwood City Club join with the Palo Alto Club was discussed. Nothing was settled. It was decided to ask ELIZABETH NICHOLAS to join the P.A. Club and then to discuss the other members of the R.C. Club. There were strong objections to taking in the members of the R.C. Club. The objections were that they would contribute nothing to the meetings that they were not Party material and that one of the member's husband was not trustworthy [redacted]. Also one member is not known by any of the Palo Alto Club. That if it weren't that they were Negroes they would have been dropped long ago and that they only considered it as a social gathering also unless ELIZABETH NICHOLAS picked them up they never came to meetings.

b6
b7C

"The question of HOLLAND ROBERTS dues was brought up. He has not paid since last March. WALTER HARJU's birthday party was discussed and plans to pick people up from here were made. WALTER HARJU mentioned that he saw KARL PRUSSIAN in a restaurant with some dark haired woman and that when he, KARL, saw WALTER he left immediately. WALTER HARJU said that [redacted] (of the South P.A. dem. club) [redacted] and WILMA HARJU were the ones who got [redacted] (I not sure if that is the way it is spelled) to take on the defense of the teachers here. They thought she would be the perfect one as she is a Republican. Some one mentioned an [redacted] I think it was DORIS DAWSON. She thought she had been active in the Teachers defense. DORIS DAWSON and I think MARY WILSON or SARA ALCHERMES said she [redacted] had once been in the Communist Party - I have no idea who she is.

b6
b7C

"The next meeting is at the SHAPOVALOVs on Jan 27th."

Informant was questioned concerning the above report and could furnish no additional information. Furnished with the report was a leaflet advertising the 60th birthday party for W.G. HARJU to be held 1/23/60 at Finnish Hall in Berkeley. It was advertised as a benefit - Civil Liberties. It is retained with informant's report.

RECOMMENDATION: No investigation.

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (100-9538)

December 23, 1959

SA RICHARD H. NELSON

b7D

[REDACTED]
SM - C

On December 14, 1959, [REDACTED] furnished a written report to SA RICHARD H. NELSON, which has been filed in [REDACTED]. It reads as follows:

Dec. 12 59

"ALLEN ISAKSEN

"SARA ALCHERMES reported that ALLEN ISAKSEN had been contacted to re-join the C.P. He said they were planning to visit Norway as soon as possible and that when they returned he is considering going to Auburn, Calif., to live. SARA ALCHERMES feels that ALLEN ISAKSEN is still fearful of KARL PRUSSIAN.

b7D

[REDACTED]
b7E

Informant explained the above report by adding orally that ALLAN ISAKSEN and KARL PRUSSIAN have a law suit pending in which each has filed claim and counter claim for breach of contract. He said that that was the reason for ISAKSEN's fear of PRUSSIAN.

RECOMMENDATION: Open and assign ISAKSEN's case to obtain passport data and furnish appropriate blind memo to the Bureau for dissemination prior to ISAKSEN's travel to Norway.

b7D

1 - 100-9538 (ALLAN ISAKSEN)
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - 100-7103 (SARA ALCHERMES)
1 - 134-7 (KARL PRUSSIAN)
RHN:jlj 28
(4)

134-7-356

Ex-FBI Informant Praises House Committee's Work

By RUTH HEMMING

The opposition to and ultimate victory over the House Un-American Activities committee when it issued subpoenas to 180 California teachers last spring was "a near-perfect example of a Communist attack to destroy its enemies."

The House committee is one of the greatest obstacles in the path of the Communist advance, according to Karl Prussion, who for 26 years was a member of the Communist Party and for the last 12

served as an informer for the FBI.

Prussion spoke yesterday on "Should the House Un-American Activities committee be abolished?" in answer to the arguments expressed by Clinton Jencks last week. Jencks was called before the committee in Washington this summer.

"This committee is the finest of all Washington committees fighting communism," Prussion said.

He said the party musters all its strength to combat the committee,

and cited the successful opposition to the committee's activities in California last June as an example.

"Almost immediately the Communists went to work. Thousands of letters were sent to senators, representatives and statesmen in all phases of our government, protesting the subpoenas and urging the dissolving of the Committee on Un-American Activities, branding it a witch hunt, etc.," he said.

As a result, the committee postponed its meetings. Prussion is to be a chief witness in the hearings dealing with Communist teacher infiltration in California schools.

He also denied charges that the committee was making a blanket attack on teachers, was undermining the entire educational system, was employing Fascist tactics and is a committee unpopular with the people.

"Protests to the committee come from a well-organized minority," he said. "The great majority recognizes the need and will support the committee when the facts are known."

The San Jose contractor revealed his 26-year affiliation with the Communist Party last Aug. 12. He broke with the party at that time, he said, because he "felt that manner of fighting is a complete and utter failure."

"The party is making gigantic steps forward. We can destroy it, but we must attack it head on," he concluded.

P. 1 Col. 3-5
"THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN
Nov. 19, 1959
Berkeley, Calif

134-7 - 316 R. Nelson Aff'd

The Daily Californian

MONARCH OF THE COLLEGE DAILIES

Berkeley, California, Thursday, November 19, 1959

No. 48

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Californian
~~BERKELEY~~ DAILY GAZETTE
Berkeley, California

Date: 11/19/59

Edition:

Editor: JOHN R. "KACY" HARD

News Editor: J.R. PAULSON

Publisher: GEORGE DUNSCOMB

Author:

Case: *Karl Prussion*

Classification: 134

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 01-10-2011 BY 60324 UC/BAW/SAB/DF

TO : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (134-7)

DATE: 11/2/59

FROM : SA RICHARD H. NELSON

SUBJECT: Former SF 1740-S
KARL PRUSSIAN

PRUSSIAN on 10/29/59 advised he was evicted from his former residence in Menlo Park and is now residing at 24501 Summerhill Road, Los Altos, telephone WHitecliff 8-8297. He stated he has no employment and is in very poor financial circumstances. He said the San Francisco "Examiner" has "dropped" him and is no longer interested in writing a series of articles for a book based on his experiences. He said he is still hopeful of writing a book but is making little progress in that direction at this time. He stated he has had a great number of requests for speaking engagements before civic and fraternal groups and branches of the American Legion and has had to decline most of these. He said few of them offer to pay him for these speeches.

He said he is frequently asked after speaking if the FBI will make speakers available to groups to speak on the subject of Communism. He asked what he should answer when that question is put to him. He was told that the San Francisco Office would undoubtedly decline to furnish a speaker under these circumstances. He stated he will not encourage any group to request this office for speakers on the subject of Communism.

PRUSSIAN still appears friendly toward the FBI and has not blamed the Bureau or the government for his present financial plight. PRUSSIAN was questioned as to his participation in the East Bay anti-Communist group he has previously reported on. He said that insofar as he knew nothing has come of the efforts to form such a committee and that he has had no recent contact with the people in the East Bay who planned such a committee.

1 - 134-7

RHN:LMR

RHN

[Handwritten signature]

Clifford for info *[Handwritten initials]*

134 7-384

SF 134-7
RHN:LMR

PRUSSIAN expressed himself as very discouraged at the lack of response to his speeches. He said that groups he addresses on Communism express immediate interest but take no follow-up action. PRUSSIAN stated that his immediate plans are to continue working on his book, to seek a job, and to make a few speeches before American Legion and service groups.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO [REDACTED] DATE: 10/15/59
FROM: SA [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: REPORTS OF CS SF 2148-S*
(Lot No. 48, dated 9/25/59, ML 3412 ML 3441)

b6
b7C
b7D

There are attached to this memo and to be considered part of the memo photographs or photostats of photographs of material relative to Northern California District CP matters and members thereof furnished on 9/25/59 by Confidential Source SF 2148-S*, who has furnished reliable information in the past. (Documentation not necessary).

These photostats are for filing the case files of the individuals and organizations concerned therein.

This source is close to ALBERT JASON LIMA, better known as MICKEY LIMA, Chairman of the Northern California CP. Original photographs of this material received from CS SF 2148-S*, as well as the developed film, will be filed as a bulky exhibit in [REDACTED]

Distribution of the photographs are shown on the backs of the original.

RECOMMENDATION:

Read by:
Reviewed by:
CIP/jem #8
(35)

SEARCHED.....INDEXED...
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....
October 15, 1959
FBI - SAN FRANCISCO

H. Nelson

Karl Prusack

Thursday
August 12th

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01-10-2011 BY 60324 UC/BAW/SAB/DF

of further importance
there at first, much the

There is the same old
commonly told one of our
people: that she had been
served a subpoena to
appear before the Americans.
In this regard, it might
warrant further inquiry.
We will do what we can
at this end. Cordially,

is (over)

Best Copy Available

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01-10-2011 BY 60324 UC/BAW/SAB/DF

Thursday
August 13th
Chronicle

Bay Builder Reveals Work With Reds

Karl Prussion, 50-year-old Peninsula builder, announced yesterday he had been a member of the Communist party for 20 years—the longest as an informer for the FBI.

Prussion, who plans to write a book about his experiences, told the Oakland Lions Club he joined the party in 1933 when he was a disillusioned student in Detroit. He said he helped infiltrate a couple of labor unions.

He told the club that he has concluded in recent years the greatest Communist menace today is in local politics where, he alleged, "thousands of Communists" have infiltrated the Democratic party. He said the Communists have been

has been located by the
FBI in your statement
the FBI informant

2

ML 343

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 20

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Page 13 ~ Duplicate 61-HQ-9152
Page 18 ~ Duplicate 61-HQ-9152
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